

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 6-8 have been amended, and claim 4 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer as to the subject matter recited therein. Claims 1-3 and 5-20 remain pending in the captioned case. Further examination and reconsideration of the captioned application is respectfully requested.

Allowed and Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 9-20 are allowed. In addition, it has been indicated that claim 4 contains allowable subject matter. Applicants acknowledge these claims are patentably distinct over the cited art. In response thereto, the allowable subject matter from claim 4 has been inserted into independent claim 1, thereby making claim 1 and claims dependent therefrom allowable over the cited art. Accordingly, Applicants assert that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Section 112 Rejection

Claims 6-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Specifically, claims 6-8 were cited as lacking in antecedent basis for various limitations. In response thereto, claims 6-8 have been amended to correct the antecedent basis. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request removal of this rejection.

Section 102 Rejection

Claims 1, 2, and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,651,199 to Shokouhi (hereinafter "Shokouhi"). In response thereto, the allowable subject matter from claim 4 has been inserted into independent claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants assert that claim 1 and claims dependent therefrom are in condition for allowance.

Section 103 Rejection

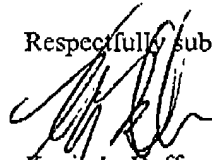
Claims 3 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shokouhi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,512,394 to Lacey et al. (hereinafter "Lacey"), and further in view of www.play-hookey.com. In light of the amendments to claim 1, Applicants assert that dependent claims 3 and 5 are patentable over the cited art. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request removal of this rejection.

CONCLUSION

The present response is believed to be a complete response to the issues raised in the Office Action mailed October 19, 2004. In view of the remarks and amendments herein, Applicants assert that pending claims 1-3 and 5-20 are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, comments, or suggestions, the undersigned attorney earnestly requests a telephone conference.

No fees are required for filing this amendment; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Daffer McDaniel, LLP Deposit Account No. 50-3268/5298-06200.

Respectfully submitted,



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